AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An electrophoresis method ~~characterized by using water as a solution for preparing a sample,~~ comprising:

preparing a sample consisting essentially of a protein to be tested dissolved in water; and

subjecting ~~a protein~~ the sample to electrophoresis in an electrophoresis buffer having a pH of 2.0 to 9.0 for size separation without a heat-denaturing treatment.

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Currently Amended) The electrophoresis method according to claim 1 [[or 2]], ~~characterized in that~~ wherein two or more molecular weight markers are subjected to electrophoresis together with [[a]] the protein, wherein at least one of the markers is adjusted to a low concentration as compared to a standard concentration, wherein the standard concentration is a concentration of the molecular weight marker that is recommended by the manufacturer or a general protocol in accordance with the kind of electrophoretic apparatus, the detection limit, the detection sensitivity and determination accuracy of the electrophoretic apparatus.

4. (Currently Amended) The electrophoresis method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ further comprising two or more molecular weight markers are subjected to electrophoresis

together with [[a]] the protein, wherein one of the markers is adjusted to a concentration of 1/10 to 10 times the concentration of [[a]] the protein to be tested.

5. (Previously Presented) The electrophoresis method according to claim 1, wherein a type of electrophoresis is selected from the group consisting of capillary electrophoresis method, microchip electrophoresis method and nano-channel electrophoresis method.

6. (New) An electrophoresis method comprising:

preparing a sample solution comprising a protein dissolved in a liquid component consisting essentially water; and

subjecting the sample to electrophoresis in an electrophoresis buffer having a pH of 2.0 to 9.0 for size separation without a heat-denaturing treatment.

7. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein said pH is 6.8 to 8.6.

8. (New) The method according to claim 6, wherein said pH is 6.8 to 8.6.